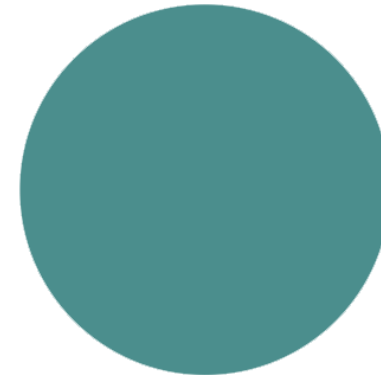


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**NAMUR
CAPITALE**



URBACT/EUI

Le NID

Sophie Marischal

Geographer

Head of Department NID – City of Namur

20 / 11 / 2024

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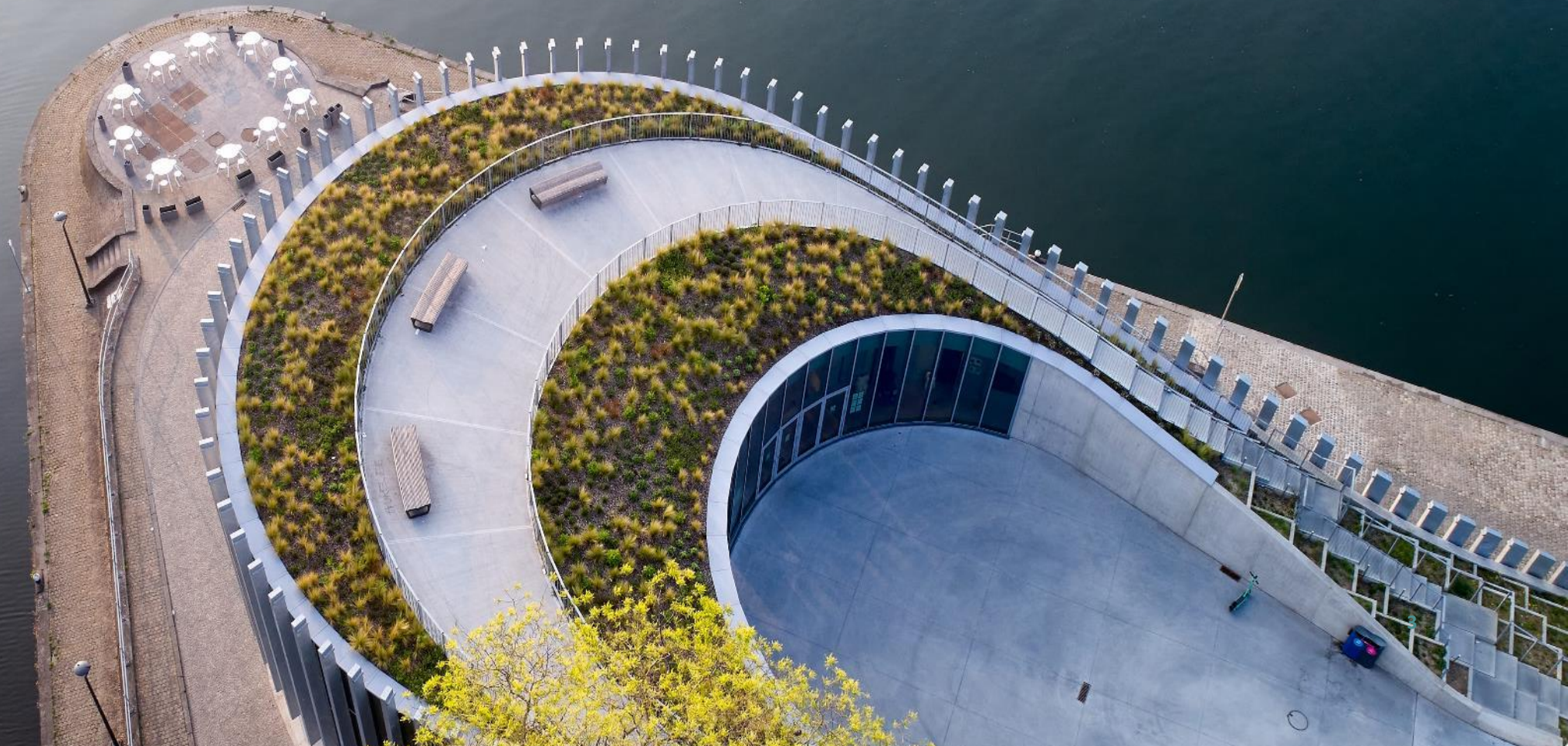
BRIEF PRESENTATION OF THE NID



The NID, is



a place for education and participation, dedicated to the future of cities and the way in which they are making the ecological transition, while mobilising intelligence (human and digital)



Namur

must develop and implement local solutions to the global challenges and upheavals (climatic and environmental, social, health, economic, etc.) that are shaking our society.

Intelligente

Capitalising on human intelligence capable of producing the best, but also on digital technology at the service of mankind, in other words technologies used to communicate, understand, inform, debate, decide or mobilise.

Durable

This urban revival should enable Namur to make the necessary transitions, particularly ecological ones, that will make it more resilient, i.e. increase its capacity to resist 'shocks'.



Permanent activities

- Exhibition « Faire éclore la ville de demain »
- Interactive city tour « eNIDgmes »
- Educational modules for schools

Languages: French, English,
Dutch, German

Recurring activities

- « Build your city of tomorrow » with Lego
- « Tell me a NIDstoire »
- Après-miNID board games
- Escape Room « Last Chance »
- Show « Lend me your NID»

Occasional activities

- Thematic conferences
- Urban workshops
- Public meetings on worksites
- Awareness-raising shows
- ...



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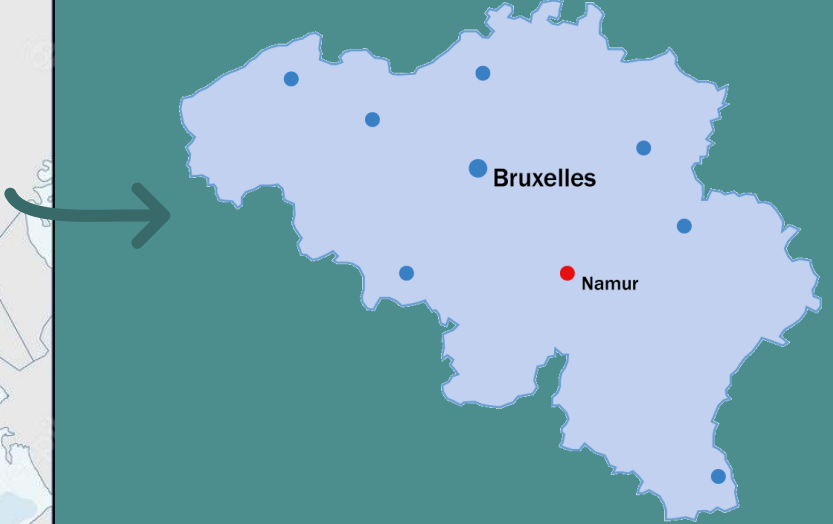
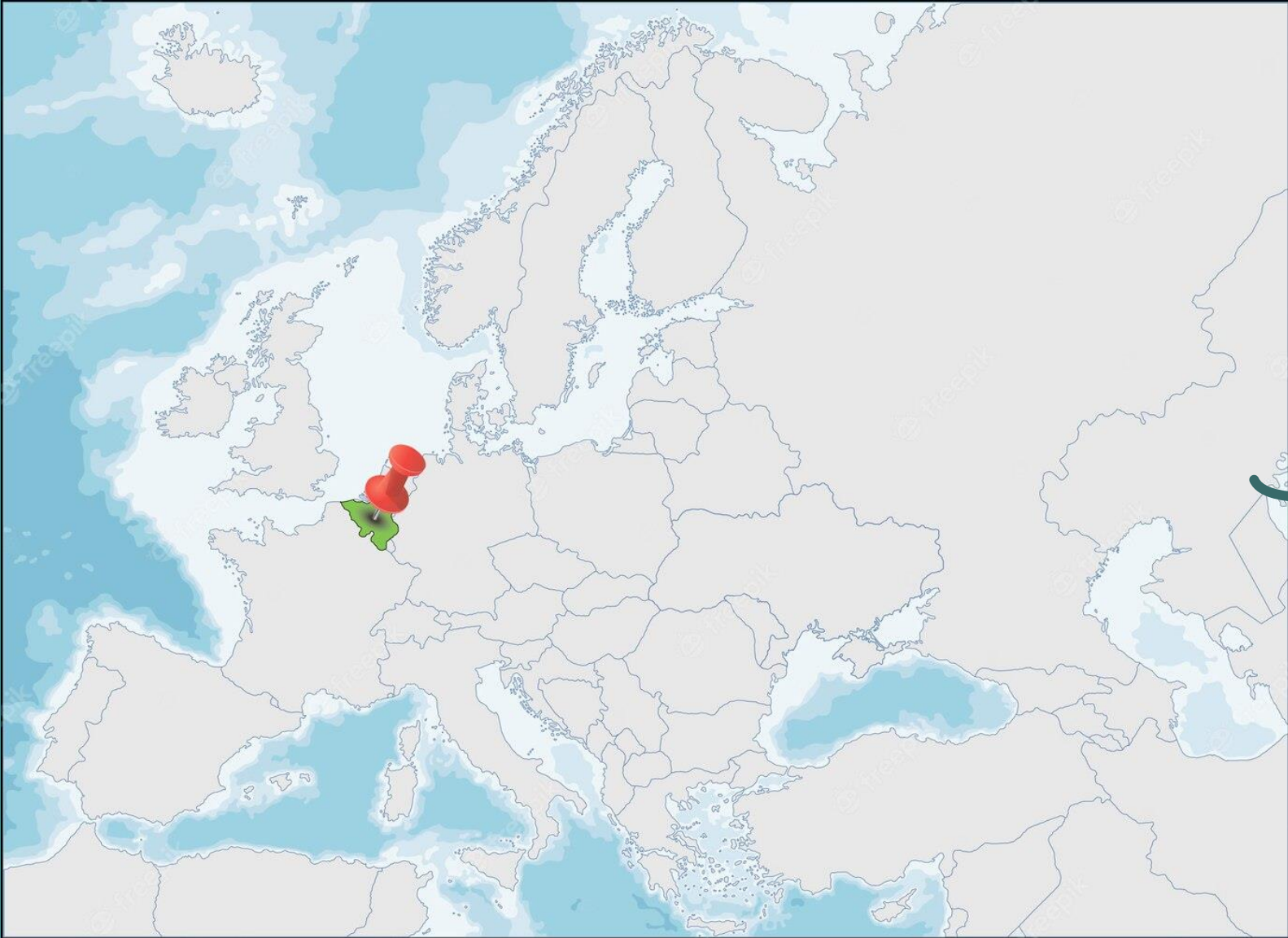


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NAMUR and the GROGNON : 50 years of projects





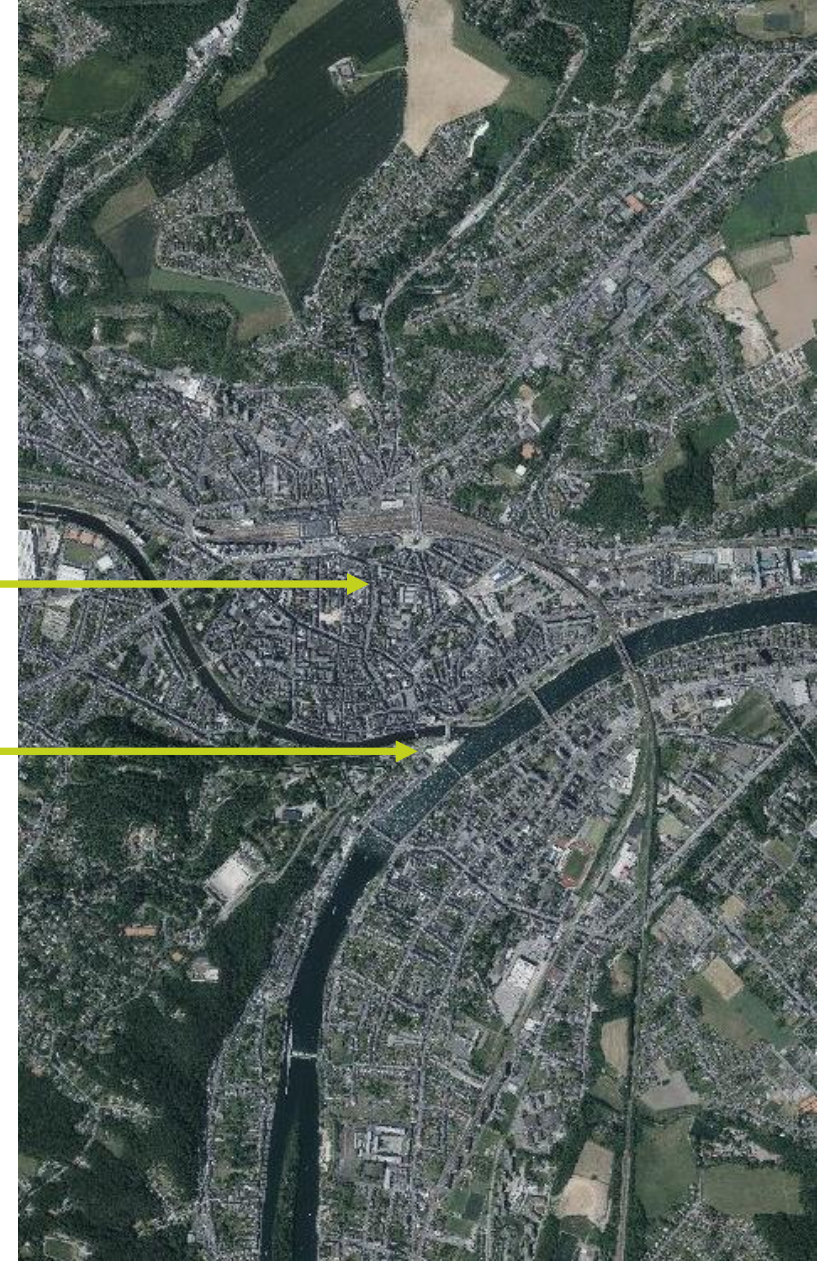
The Grognon, a major site in Namur

- At the foot of the Citadel
- At the foot of the Walloon Parliament
- At the confluence of the Meuse and Sambre rivers
- A major route into the city



City centre

Grognon





- Prehistoric occupation
- Roman period: temples and agora
- Port and housing: Merovingian, Carolingian and medieval periods
- Medieval and modern fortifications (11th, 12th and 16th centuries)
- 1847 : the tip of the Grognon is artificially extended to allow the construction of a harbour
- 1933: construction of the Pont de France
- Second half of the 19th century: competition from the railways led to the decline of the port and the transfer of economic activities to the upper part of the town
- Late 60s: demolition of the old district

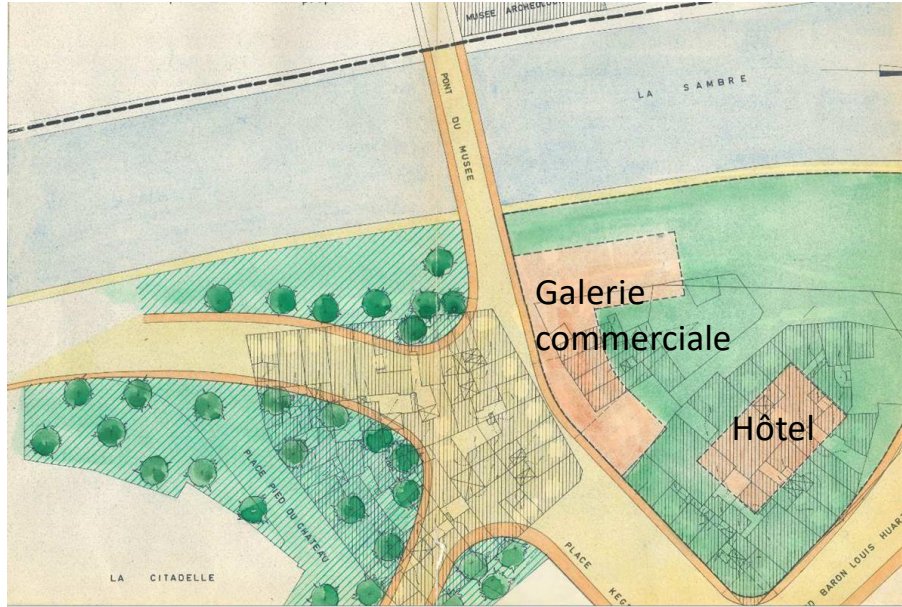
1968 - The demolition of the district



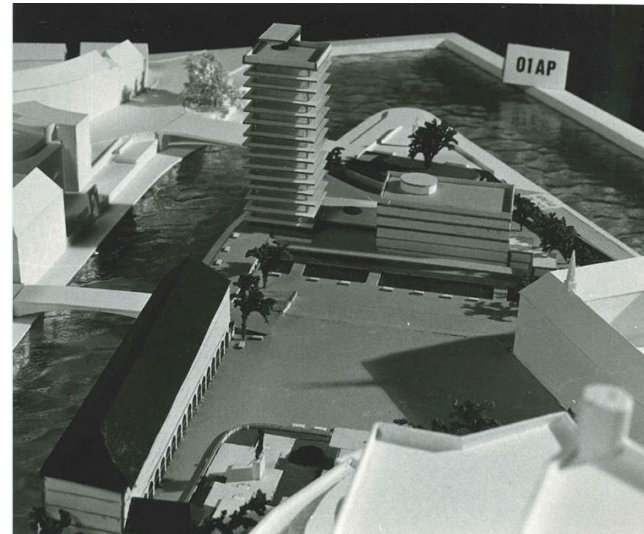
- 1928: local authority decides to clean up the densely populated area and to facilitate motorised transit
- During the war 1940-1945: major damage to the district
- From the early 50s: policy of sewerage and 'all-car use'.
- 1968: decision to demolish the last buildings



1969-1990 Specific development plans



- 1969: special development plan: major road junction, hotel, commercial gallery
- 1972: road construction
- 1972/1973 : international architecture competition: 10 proposals but no designated winner



Display of the projects

→ public preference for a park → another PPA in 1988-1990 but abandoned

1990-1994 The digs

- From 1990, excavations at the Hospice Saint-Gilles
- From 1994, excavations at Grognon



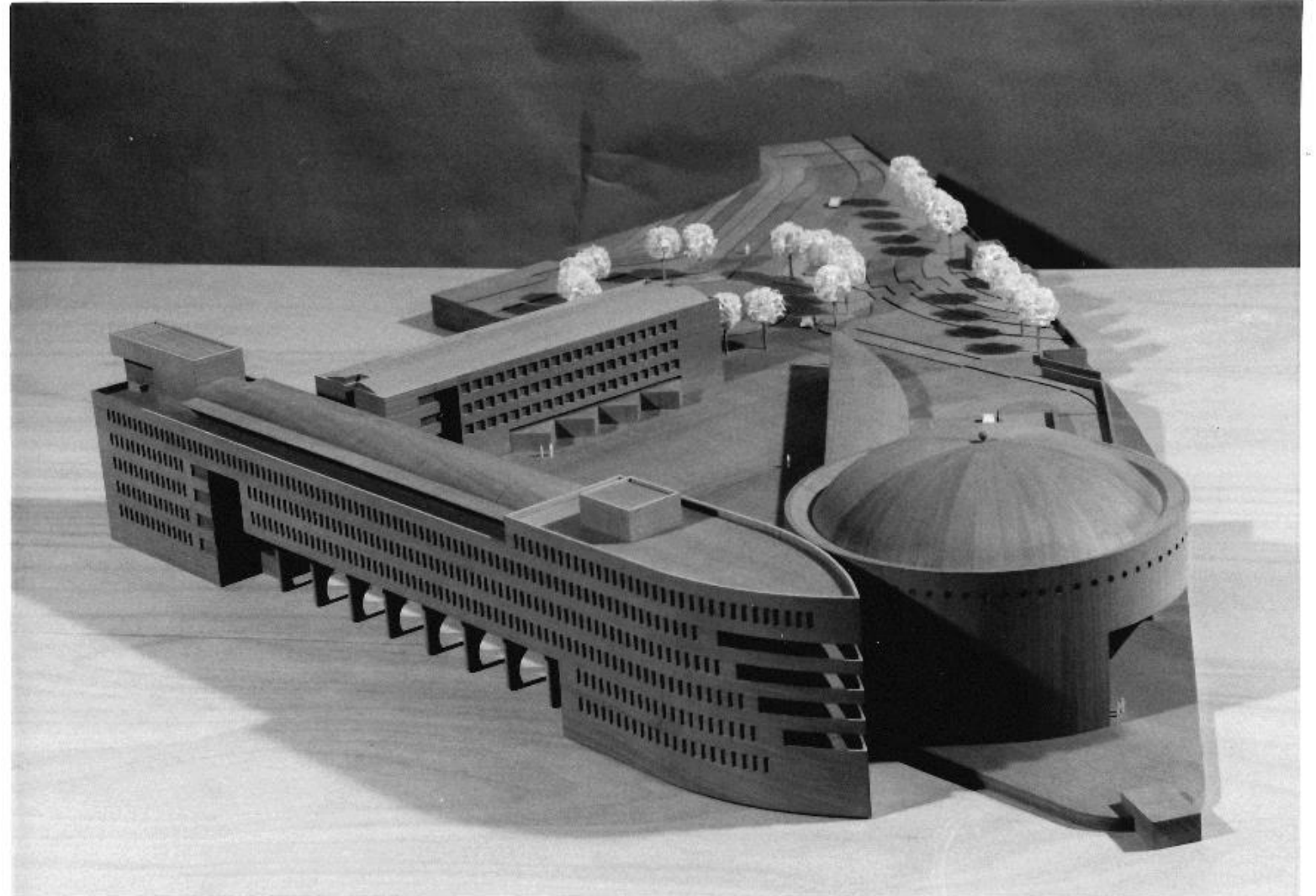
1994-1995 The international competition

- 1994/1995: WP launches international architecture competition :
 - WP selects Mario Botta's proposal in association with atelier Arbre d'Or and architect Haulot

Strong opposition: megalomaniac project (1 billion BEF), in competition with the Citadelle and the Saint-Gilles

Popular consultation (1996): massive rejection of the installation of the WP on the Grognon

→ the Walloon Parliament decides to move into the Saint-Gilles building



2006 A temporary arrangement



2012 New orientations

2012: the will of the local authority as reflected in the transversal strategic programme

- Requalifying the Confluence district by 2025
 - **Keep car traffic off** the site as much as possible
 - Develop a **vast public space overlooking the Meuse River** for walking and leisure activities
 - Integrating the **Digital Port** building
- Improving accessibility to the city center by building an **underground car park**
- Connect Namur and Jambes with a **pedestrian bridge**



Etude de faisabilité

Financial resources

- ERDF 2014-2020 Programmation : Namur Innovative City Lab project portfolio submitted by the BEP

City of Namur:


- Development of the Grognon esplanade and the « Digital Port »
7.7 million in ERDF co-financing out of 9.5 million

Service public de Wallonie:

- Traffic management (DGO1)
2.2 million ERDF co-financing out of 2.2 million
- Pedestrian-cyclist footbridge (DGO2)
3.85 million ERDF co-financing out of 6.3 million

13.75 M° co-financed

One site, five projects



Modification of the road network (SPW DGO1)

Car park (City of Namur, concession, 670 pl.)

Esplanade (City of Namur)

NID (City of Namur)

Pedestrian and cyclist footbridge (SPW-DGO2)

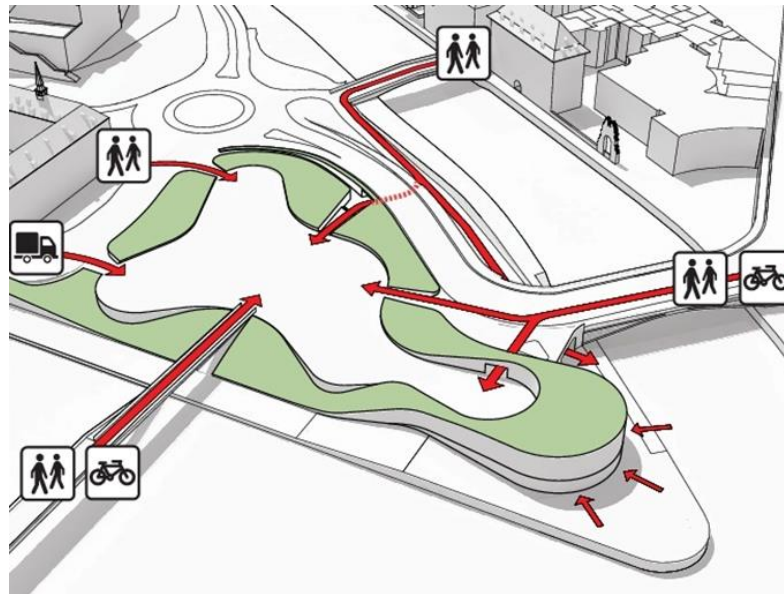
La passerelle



- Encourage environmentally friendly modes of transport between Namur and Jambes

The esplanade and the NID - works competition (2015-2016)

- The heart of the project is an urban clearing with a plant/mineral mix
- Vegetation screens out road traffic while providing pedestrian and cycle connections
- Meuse facade open to the river, directly connected by terraces



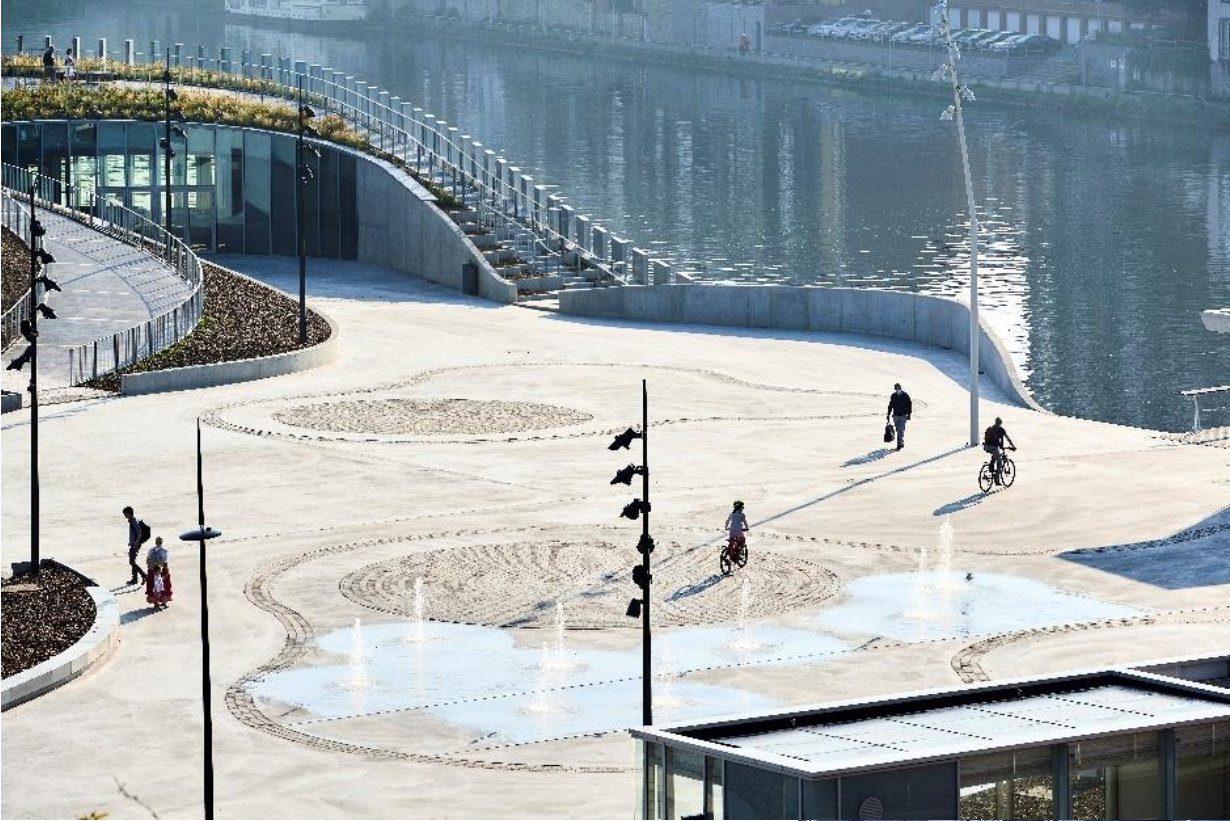
The esplanade and the NID - works competition (2015-2016)



The esplanade and the NID - works competition (2015-2016)



The esplanade and the NID - works competition (2015-2016)



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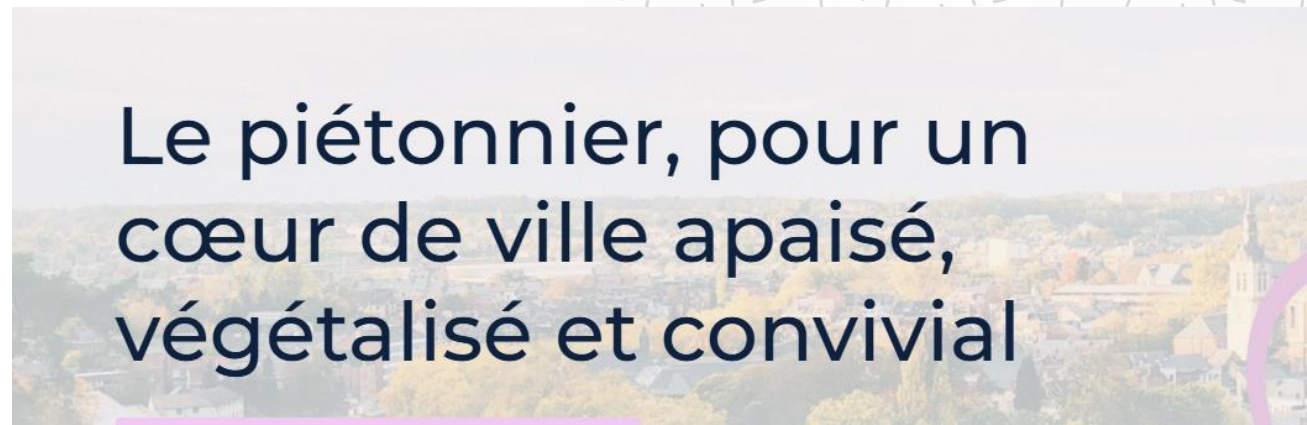
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The esplanade and the NID - works competition (2015-2016)

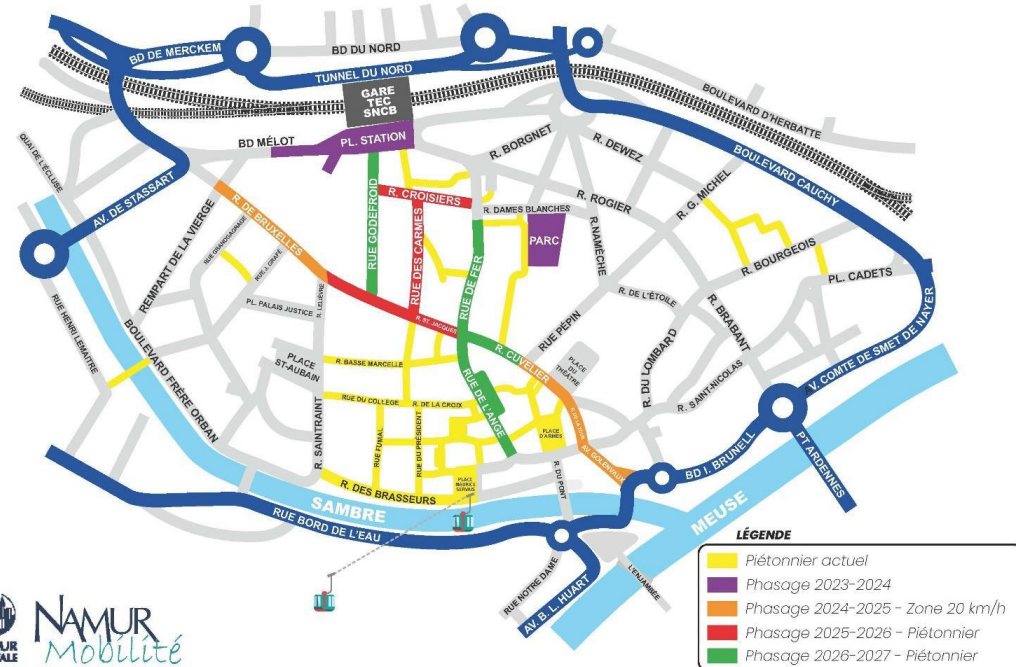


What next ?

- Sustainability of the infrastructures (cfr NID presentation);
- Extending the project to the entire city centre (for a calmer, greener and more user-friendly city centre) with a project to extend the pedestrian area with the following objectives :
 - Enhancing the attractiveness of the city;
 - Improving quality of life for residents;
 - Boosting local business;
 - Promoting active mobility;
 - Improving air quality.



NAMUR - EXTENSION DU PIÉTONNIER - Plan du phasage



What next ?

- ERDF programming 2021-2027 – 4 projects for the extension of the pedestrian area:
 - Extension of the pedestrian walkway
 - Urban paths and games
 - Lighting
 - Delivery areas



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Thank you for your time!
See you soon at the NID

Esplanade de la Confluence
5000 Namur

081/24.72.94

le-nid@ville.namur.be

Horaire :

Lundi>Mardi : écoles (sur réservation)

Mercredi> Vendredi : 10h > 17h

Samedi et Dimanche : 14h>18h

